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PSC 230.01: International Relations

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INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

Professor Paul Haber
University of Montana
Political Science Department, course #230, section 1
Autumn 1994
Meets: MWF 12:10 - 1:00

Required text available for purchase in UC Bookstore:

Charles Kegley and Eugene Wittkopf, *World Politics: Trend and Transformation*. New York: St. Martins Press, 1993.

Students are also required to read The Christian Science Monitor. Forms are available from the professor, and will be handed out on the first day of class. Students must order at least the 10-week subscription, available at the special student rate of \$15.85. Students are strongly encouraged to watch news programs on TV (C-Span, public television, weekend talk shows), listen to public radio, and read relevant journals as means for getting and/or keeping informed about current affairs.

This is an introductory course to international relations. No assumptions are made regarding prior knowledge of the topic. Students will be required to study a variety of conceptual issues vital to the study of international relations, and apply these to current international issues, as discussed in the Christian Science Monitor and elsewhere. Ethical, as well as political and conceptual considerations will be important to our evaluation of historical and contemporary international issues. Students will be required to apply their understanding of theory and current events in several forums, including quizzes, exams and a term project to be explained below.

In general, I will lecture on Monday and Wednesday. In general, we will use Fridays to explore the applicability of theory to events through small group discussion, class projects, and quizzes. Often, students will break up into small discussion groups and discuss their answers. Usually, the question(s) will be announced by the end of class on Wednesday, and students will be required to hand in typed answers at the end of that week's Friday class discussion. The answers will be graded by the TA in consultation with the professor and kept in a file, in TA's office, which the student may drop by and consult at any point during the semester. The professor is open to suggestions from students regarding new ideas and projects for Fridays. (In the past, students have suggested some of the most successful Friday assignments.)

Students are required to attend class regularly. Quizzes and exams will cover topics discussed both in the readings and in class. Students are required to keep up with the reading on a week by week basis. Lectures and discussions will assume that you have read the material carefully. Students who do not come

to class, or repeatedly come to class unprepared, may have their grade lowered.

Your grade will be based on three exams (50% of total grade); the quotebook (25%); and Friday assignments and quizzes (25%). The quizzes may be, or may not be, announced before they are given.

It may become necessary from time to time to rearrange assignments or alter the schedule. Any changes in scheduling will be announced in class. If you miss class, you are responsible for checking with another student for lecture notes and any announcements that may have been made regarding scheduling or assignments.

READING ASSIGNMENTS

August 29, pp. 3-25

August 31, pp. 26-39

September 5, Holiday

September 7, pp. 41-70

September 12, pp. 71-85

September 14, pp. 85-114

September 19, pp. pp. 115-141

September 21, pp. 141-153

September 23: Exam #1

September 26, pp. 154-189

September 28, pp. 189-205

October 3, pp. 209-239

October 5, pp. 239-261

October 10, Holiday

October 12, pp. 262-296

October 17, pp. 297-317

October 19, pp. 317-340

October 24, pp. 341-367

October 26, pp. 367-385

October 28: Exam #2

October 31, pp. 389-411

November 2, pp. 411-435

November 7, pp. 436-450

November 9, pp. 451-465

November 14, pp. 466-482

November 16, pp. 482-497

November 21, to be determined

November 28, pp. 498-513

November 30, pp. 513-531

December 5, pp. 535-545

December 7, to be determined

December 12: Exam #3

THE QUOTEBOOK

The quotebook is your term project, and IS DUE December 7. It will give you the opportunity to conduct research on a topic of your choosing. The only requirement for topic selection is that it is an international problem, or challenge, about which people are concerned. It is suggested, but not required, that you select a topic that is being covered in the Christian Science Monitor.

Examples include the international environment, the Brazilian Amazon, international human rights, human rights violations in Latin America, new democracies in Africa, the new democracy in South Africa. As you can see from the examples, the individual student can decide how broad or narrow to make the topic. You may begin broad, and find you want to narrow because of being overwhelmed by the amount of information. You may start narrow, say arms transfers to Mauritania, and decide to change the topic to arms transfers between the United States and Africa. All students must have their topic approved, by the TA, by October 3.

The quotebook that you will turn in will be a collection of sixteen quotes on the global problem of your choosing. Four of the quotes should be taken from the textbook by Kegley and Wittkopf. Eight quotes should be taken from no fewer than three different journals that cover international affairs and/or

scholarly books. Of these eight journal quotes, *absolutely* no more than three may be a popular journal such as Time, Newsweek or The Economist. Take this opportunity to explore, perhaps for the first time, scholarly journals. You may also include quotes from the Christian Science Monitor, but these may not exceed one-quarter of the total. At least three of your "quotes" must be graphic and quantitative, i.e. a table or chart providing data about the problem. If you wish, one (but no more than one!) of these graphics may be a map, a comic, etc. You may create your own tables or charts.

Each quote must be accompanied with a citation that would enable a reader to easily find its source. While there are many ways to make citations, and you can choose the one you like, you must be consistent in the form. Here is one example:

Olivia Boola, "Infant Mortality in South Africa" in The Journal of International Development Vol. 2, No. 1, January 1989, p. 67.

Either before or after each quote, you must provide a statement that puts the quote in context and a brief paragraph indicating why you found the quote significant. Do you agree? Disagree? Are you inspired? Infuriated? How does the quote illuminate some important aspect of the problem? How is this quote related to others in the quotebook?

A brief opening or final section of the quotebook (at least two and no more than five pages) should provide your assessment of the issues and patterns raised by the quotebook. (If you wish, you may also write a brief introduction *and* a conclusion, not to exceed five pages in total.) The introduction and/or conclusion should include a description of the problem, an analysis of the problem, and some prescription for what might be done about it. Students are strongly encouraged to meet with the TA at least once during the semester to discuss how the project is going and to be sure it is on track.

ATTENTION STUDENTS: The UM Mansfield Library has a computer service known as Laser Net CD-Rom Data Bases. This can be an extremely useful tool in locating articles and books on a particular topic. The library offers introductory courses. You can sign up at the Reference Desk.

A PARTIAL LIST OF LIBRARY JOURNALS

Alternatives	New York Review of Books
Commentary	Orbis
Partisan Review	New Republic
Comparative Politics	Political Affairs
Current History	Politics and Society
Daedalus	Washington Spectator
Dissent	Problems of Communism
Economist	Progressive
Far Eastern Economic Review	Race and Class
FAO Quarterly Bulletin of Statistics	Social Policy
Foreign Affairs	Socialist Review
Foreign Policy	State of the World
Harpers	Der Spiegel
Humanist	Les Temps Modernes
Inquiry	Third World Quarterly
International Financial News Survey	Washington Monthly
International Financial Statistics Yearbook	
International Monetary Fund	World Monitor
International Organization	World Marxist Review
International Studies Quarterly	New Leader
Journal of Conflict Resolution	National Review
Manchester Guardian Weekly	World Press Review
Middle East Review	World Policy Journal
Monthly Review	World Politics
Mother Jones	Nation

QUOTEBOOK EVALUATION FORM

Student Name:

Topic:

A. The quotebook contains 16 quotes _____ in the following proportion:

One-quarter are from Kegley and Wittkopf (i.e. 4):

At least half are taken from at least 3 different journals (i.e. 8), and no more than three are from "popular journals" such as Newsweek, The Economist, Time, etc:

One-quarter are from the Post _____, another newspaper _____, or other source _____ (i.e. about 4 total):

At least three of the above are graphic, i.e. a table, a chart, (and no more than one is a map, a comic, etc.):

B. Is each quote accompanied with a citation, using the style suggested in the syllabus or another style accurately and consistently throughout?

C. Is each quote preceded or followed by a brief paragraph that puts the quote in context and indicates why the student found the quote significant and/or how this quote related to others in the quotebook?

D. Does a brief opening or final section of the quotebook (at least two and no more than five typed pages) provide the student's assessment of the issues and patterns raised by the quotebook? Does this section include a brief description of the problem, an explanation of the problem, and some prescription for what might be done about it?

E. Is the quotebook served by the mechanics (grammar, spelling, proofreading) that undergird all good writing?

F. Additional comments?

QUOTEBOOK GRADE: